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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RE: U.S. Application
Serial No: 08/966,368
Filed: November 7, 1997
Group: 2839
Inventor: ALFRED THIARD-LAFORET ET AL.
For: METHOD FOR REPAIRING A CONNECTING
DEVICE FOR THE...

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SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

AMENDMENT
REQUEST UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.607
SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.175

Our check in the amount of \$ --0-- is attached covering any required fees. In the event that any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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#10 Declaration
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PATENT OF

ALFRED THIARD-LAFORET ET AL

SERIAL NO.: 08/966,368

FILED: NOVEMBER 7, 1997

FOR: METHOD FOR REPAIRING A CONNECTING DEVICE
FOR THE ELECTRICAL CONNECTION...

EXAMINER: STANDING

GROUP ART UNIT: 2839

REQUEST UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.607

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

SIR:

Applicants herein request the declaration of an interference between the above-referenced application and U.S. patent 5,573,414, issued on November 12, 1996 to Taillon et al. A proposed count is set forth below:

COUNT

A method for providing an electrical and fluid connector on an electro-fluidic conductor, said electrical and fluidic connector having a first member and a second member that are separate and both electrically conductive, said second member having a fluid port that facilitates fluidic connection to a fluid conductor and said second member being configured to facilitate electrical connection to an electrical conductor, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) securing said first member to said electro-fluidic conductor such that said first

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member encircles an end portion of said electro-fluidic conductor and forms a fluid tight seal thereto, and electrically connects therewith; and

(b) matably connecting said first member to said second member such that said first member and said second member define a hollow inner chamber that comprises a fluid tight chamber for passing fluid between said electro-fluidic conductor and said fluid port of said second member, and wherein said first member and said second member themselves define an electrical connection between said electro-fluidic conductor and said electrical conductor when said electrical conductor is attached to said second member.

Claim 1 of Taillon et al corresponds to the proposed count.

Claim 24 of the above-referenced application corresponds to the proposed count.

The terms of claim 24 are applied as follows:

24. A method for providing an electrical and fluid connector on an electro-fluidic conductor [COL. 1, LINES 7-12], said electrical and fluidic connector having a first member [2a] and a second member [2b] that are separate and both electrically conductive [COL. 4, LINES 1 AND 2, AND 12], said second member having a fluid port that facilitates fluidic connection to a fluid conductor ^{using} [COL. 4, LINES 30-31] and said second member being configured to facilitate electrical connection to an electrical conductor [COL. 5, LINES 27-30], said method comprising the steps of:

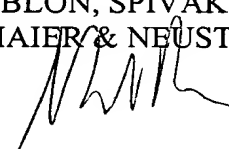
(a) securing said first member to said electro-fluidic conductor such that said first member encircles an end portion of said electro-fluidic conductor and forms a fluid tight seal thereto [COL. 4, LINES 1-10; COL 5, LINES 13-19], and electrically connects therewith [COL. 5, LINES 27-30]; and

(b) matably connecting said first member to said second member such that said first member and said second member define a hollow inner chamber that comprises a fluid

tight chamber for passing fluid between said electro-fluidic conductor and said fluid port of said second member [COL. 4, LINES 12-14; COL. 5, LINES 20-44], and wherein said first member and said second member themselves define an electrical connection between said electro-fluidic conductor and said electrical conductor when said electrical conductor is attached to said second member [COL. 5, LINES 27-30].

Respectfully submitted,

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